Listing and amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method use in removing noise from image data, the method comprising:

receiving image data representing an image;

filtering the received image data to remove noise therefrom and to provide filtered image data; and

displaying where the filtering is being performed on the received image data.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the filtered image data.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of compressing the filtered image data to provide compressed filtered image data.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of transmitting the compressed filtered image data to an endpoint.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of, in response to the displaying step, adjusting filter parameters used in the filtering step.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of storing the adjusted filter parameters for future reference in filtering the image data.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the filtering is performed in accordance with a Lee filter.

2

8. (Original) A method for use in processing image data, the method comprising:

    filtering image data to provide filtered image data;

    converting a control signal used in the filtering to a video signal; and

    displaying an image representative of the video signal;

    wherein the displayed image indicates where the image data is being filtered.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the filtering is performed in accordance with a Lee filter.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the control signal is a smoothing control signal of the Lee filter.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the converting step converts the control signal to a monochrome video signal.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the converting step converts the control signal to a monochrome video signal.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the image is a black and white representation of edge activity in the filtered image data.

14. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the control signal represents a statistical function.

15. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the statistical function is a local variance of at least a portion of the image data.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the portion is a group of pixels of the image data.

17. (Original) A method for use in processing image data, the method comprising:

filtering the image data to provide filtered image data in accordance with at least one value of at least one filter control signal;

converting the at least one filter control signal to a video signal;

displaying an image representative of the video signal; and

adjusting the at least one value of the at least one filter control signal in response to the displayed image.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the adjusting step compares an average brightness level of the displayed image to a predefined average brightness level.

19. (Original) A server for processing image data, the server comprising:

a filter for filtering image data to provide filtered image data;

a video converter for converting at least one control signal of the filter to a video signal; and

a display for showing an image representative of the video signal.

20. (Original) The server of claim 19, wherein the display also shows the filtered image data.

21. (Original) A video processor comprising:

a receiver for receiving image data;

a video processing element for filtering the received image data to remove noise therefrom, wherein the video processing element includes a filter preview element for providing a video signal representative of a control signal within the video processing element; and

4

a display for showing an image representative of the video signal, wherein the image provides a visual indication of where noise is being removed from the image data.

22. (Original) Apparatus comprising:

a filter for filtering image data to provide filtered image data and a filter control signal;

a video converter for converting the filter control signal to a video signal; and

a display for showing an image representative of the video signal.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising:

a multiplexer coupled to the filter, video converter and the display, wherein the multiplexer is responsive to a mode control signal for coupling either the filtered image data or the video signal to the display.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the filter is a Lee filter and the control signal is a measure of a local variance of at least a portion of the image data.

25. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program comprising the steps of:

enabling selection of one of a number of display modes for use in processing image data, wherein at least one of the number of display modes is associated with displaying where filtering of noise in the image data is occurring; and

enabling adjustment of at least one filter control signal used in the filtering of noise in the image data.

5